

READS LIKE A NOVEL

Strange Career of Rev. George Frederick Burgoyne Howard.

Either the Craftiest of Criminals or a Victim of Mistaken Identity and Remarkable Coincidences.

HIS ALLEGED MISDOINGS

On Trial for Gulling People Who Wanted Mythical Millions.

Operated in London as "William Lord Moore" and in New York as "E. Ross."

—Also a Railway Promoter.

JACKSON, Tenn., Dec. 15.—That truth is sometimes stranger than fiction has been fully exemplified in the case of Rev. George Frederick Burgoyne Howard, alias William Lord Moore and a host of other names, who is now on trial here charged with swindling many persons through the bogus claims business. The fiction of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde becomes a simple matter of fact when compared with the life led by Howard, if all the stories told of the latter be true. The case has been on trial here for about two weeks, and the end is not in sight. Robert W. Lincoln, ex-minister to Great Britain; Hon. John C. New, ex-consul general to London, and other well-known men have testified against the prisoner, and the government has yet several important witnesses to place on the stand.

Rev. George Frederick Burgoyne Howard is either one of the sleekest artists who has operated in this country or is the victim of the most remarkable and unfortunate chain of coincidences connecting him with the identity of other people of any character known in fiction or real life. In his famous suit for \$50,000 damages, tried here in 1889, the leading question at issue hinged on his identity, as to whether his name was George Frederick Burgoyne Howard or Frederick Attyrgh Howard. To settle this question weeks were spent in London securing depositions by both sides, marriage records and birth records were searched and evidence introduced from Calcutta. The defense, propped by witnesses that Fred Howlett had been born about the same time that insurance policies and other records showed that Fred Howard had been married about the same time, had the same number of children, the authors of both "Freds" were both boys had lived in Edmonstone, both had gone to sea in early life and both had turned up in America.

Howard had also told of a voyage to the Arctic regions in search of the Polar ice, and the records of the United States steamer Tigris showed that Fred Howlett's name appeared on the list of the midshipmen who went on that expedition. Howard denied everything connecting him with Fred Howlett and had depositions to that effect until he came to the record of the Tigris. The story on the witness stand was that he met Fred Howlett in New York, that the latter was entitled to go on the ship, but that at the last moment did not want to go, and that he had taken his place. His name, age, etc., in order not to interfere with the lists and examination when the vessel was in port. He admitted having used the name afterward in South Carolina and in Georgia, where he met Judge James H. Hays, who had taken out license to practice law in Georgia as Fred Howard. He then said it altogether clear, either, why he used Fred Howlett's name and gave the same age of his father as the other. He said insurance policy taken out after coming to Jackson, but the jury decided that he ought to have a cent damages for his trouble in being so mixed up with Fred Howlett.

AS WILLIAM LORD MOORE. His friends here claim that he would be able to steer clear of any more such entangling alliances and remain simply G. F. B. Howard. But in this, it seems they were doomed to disappointment, and the government in the present trial have succeeded in mixing up with William Lord Moore, E. Ross and other persons in an inextricable tangle as he ever was with Fred Howlett.

Howard left there in 1880, and it was later understood that he was practicing law in New York very successfully. He was also at the same time, was conducting a very successful European claims agency, swindling many persons through the bogus claims business. He was also a railway promoter, and was very successful in securing contracts for the building of the line of the Jackson and Memphis railroad. He was also a railway promoter, and was very successful in securing contracts for the building of the line of the Jackson and Memphis railroad. He was also a railway promoter, and was very successful in securing contracts for the building of the line of the Jackson and Memphis railroad.

The scene shifted to a few miles later Joseph Leger turns up in the European claims business in New York. He is corresponding with the same people who had been duped by E. Ross and William Lord Moore. He had gone to New York to see his predecessor, and when he obtained "expenses" from them sent them a check with a big red seal over the "Superior Court of Chancery," signed by one "The Laing, Chancery." About the time Mr. Leger began to receive money rather freely from the Postoffice Department stopped his mail and Mr. Leger went on his traveling place. This was in the summer of 1882, and Mr. Leger effectively disappeared.

In the early fall, Howard returned to Jackson, having been making his home in the two preceding years in New York and London. He made political speeches until after the election in November. He then went to the Gulf and Tennessee railroad, where he had an interest in the Gulf and Tennessee railroad. He was also a railway promoter, and was very successful in securing contracts for the building of the line of the Jackson and Memphis railroad.

About this time the clients of Ross, Moore and Leger received anonymous letters from Jackson informing them that they would learn something to their interest by corresponding with the president of the Gulf and Tennessee railroad. Many of them did write, and soon Howard's clerks were busy sending out correspondence on the stationery of the Gulf and Tennessee railroad, informing them that they were entitled to estates. This led to more correspondence, and

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair.

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ANOTHER NEW STATE

Democrats Determined to Admit All the Territories but One.

First Degree in the Order of American Sisterhood Conferred on Arid Arizona and Its Handful of People.

NEW MEXICO DULY ELECTED

And to Be Initiated by the House as Quickly as Possible.

While Oklahoma Is to Be Blackballed or Tacked on to Indian Territory Because It Would Be Republican.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The course of events in the House to-day resembled the halcyon days of the Reed Congress, when legislation was rushed through at a galloping speed. The bill for the admission of Arizona was taken up yesterday, and the bill for the admission of New Mexico was well under way when a wrangle over what was to be done with Oklahoma intervened, and the debate thus precipitated.

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The McGarrath claim, which came up against the bill, was not taken up, and the morning hour expired without action, thus sending the bill to the foot of the calendar. In the course of Mr. Pendleton's speech on this subject the fact was developed that a special order for the consideration of this claim will be asked for on Monday.

Mr. Outwater rose to a question of personal privilege and made to the House the explanation previously sent out, regarding the publication of a railway map in one of the public documents of the military committee.

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And the School Board Meeting Passed Off Quietly.

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A fourth installment of the temporary loan of \$10,000, made by the State, was paid to the school board last night. The library committee asked for an additional \$1,000 to pay the expenses of keeping the books in the library during the night. This was granted and the board adjourned.

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